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Title: Sapling of Corruption

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Notes compiled at the  
behest of Lord  
Aragothias.

Sapling of Corruption  
Etymology: Unknown.  
Considering the tree has  
shown no tendencies  
towards corrupting any  
sort of object, inanimate  
or otherwise. It is  
possible, however, that it  
has merely yet to reach  
its full potency.

Nature: Infernal with  
synergistic abilities with  
Undeath. It is uncertain  
where the Infernal nature  
stems from, considering  
it was reported as being  
collected from the Well  
of the Void. Either some  
sort of unknown ritual  
imbued the sapling with  
power or the artifact  
was not collected from  
the Well of the Void at  
all.

Izrem's personal note- A  
strange paradox has been  
found to occur as the  
sapling was contained  
within the protective  
wards of the Sepulcher  
of Unmaking. The sapling  
has grown into a full  
tree, albeit seemingly dead  
in appearance. However,  
no nutrients that would be  
required for a plant to  
grow have been supplied  
and the wards serve no  
double purpose in  
presenting energy to it.  
The idea that an object  
of Undeath and

Infernalism would follow the normal rules of plant growth seems unlikely. However, given that the Sapling grew without any assistance from myself or others, begs the question of where it draws whatever resource it requires to grow. I have yet to find evidence of where it draws its energy from or in what form that energy comes. However, as will be discussed later, the tree, though having the appearance of a dead cyprus tree, has absolutely no normal plant matter characteristics.

#### Anatomy/Physical Elements:

The sapling, once grown to its current height (18 feet), has all the physical markings of a cyprus tree in the dead of winter. However, one cannot collect branches or boughs from the tree, as all such samples immediately crumble into an inert ash. The branch itself regenerates within the next few days. This act seems to have no affect on the abilities of the tree (discussed later). When presented with a necromantic focus, such as a soulstone fragment warded with symbols of Unmaking, the branches begin to glow and resonate with other wards in the vicinity. After a certain period of time, the tree begins to produce a series of twinkling necrotic mana apparitions which float about the tree aimlessly.

Mystical Properties: Once the tree begins to collect

its mana essence (through the roots apparently) and has successfully branched into a full, though dead, tree it begins to interact with the wards by resonating at the same field intensity as the wards themselves produce. Once this happens the tree's own essence field fluctuates with the natural patterns scribed into the wards and runes it has connected with. Through the creation of a command alter that interacts directly with the tree, I have been able to monitor, repair and even affect the intensity of any ward the tree has connected with. The tree has, thusly, become a focal point for the Entropic energies the wards use to provide protection, occluding or control, depending on their nature.

#### Key Phenomenon:

The key elements of the Sapling of Corruption are two fold: 1) It is capable of connecting to both the field the wards create, as well as the wards themselves, and 2) Unlike the wards, the amount of power the tree can channel is immensely larger.

The second element is the centerpoint of the device I have titled the "Entropy Field Generator". Because the wards themselves can receive only so much power, they can only be so strong as their mana patterns allow. The tree lacks this limitation and can channel an extraordinary level of power. The first element is what allows the tree to actually be used to empower our defenses and

let the generator work.  
The tree cannot be used  
to supply more power to  
the wards, as they are  
already at their full  
power. However, the  
tree's ability to interact  
directly with the field  
the wards create, which  
has no reachable upper  
limit in how much power  
it can receive, is what  
allows the Entropy Field  
Generator to function in  
a useful capacity.  
Information on the  
Entropy Field Generator  
can be found under the  
title of the same now.

#### Unknown Elements:

Several curiosities have  
arisen during my research  
regarding the Sapling of  
Corruption.

1) As stated earlier, what  
exactly the tree uses to  
grow is unknown. While  
several educated guesses  
or hypotheses could be  
made, they are presently  
untestable due to the  
anatomy and physical  
nature of the tree.

2) The tree's nature is  
essentially infernal  
manages to channel the  
powers of Entropy and  
Oblivion as well as any  
Order of the Ebon Skull  
artifact I have seen  
(short of the Ebon  
Skull itself). While the  
two practices are not  
innately mutually exclusive,  
there is often some level  
of interference when an  
infernal object is forced  
to channel entropic  
energies, and vice versa.  
How the tree overcomes  
this usual limitation is  
uncertain.